

# President Phones Goldwater, Visits With Eisenhower

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WASHINGTON.

President Johnson, in a very consensus mood, yesterday had a "nice, friendly" telephone conversation with Barry Goldwater and a 45-minute White House visit with former President Eisenhower.

The telephone call was thought to be the first communication between the President and Mr. Goldwater, 1964 Republican standard bearer, since their less-than-friendly exchanges of last fall.

White House press secretary Bill Moyers said Mr. Johnson, who trounced his GOP challenger by 16 million votes on Nov. 3, put in the call to the conservative Republican leader. It was Mr. Moyers who described the conversation as a "nice, friendly social chat."

The meeting with former President Eisenhower, Mr. Moyers said, consisted of talk on a variety of subjects including Viet Nam, the threatened steel strike, Latin America and North Atlantic Treaty matters.

Mr. Moyers said the President read several letters to Gen. Eisenhower. They were sent to Mr. Johnson by soldiers serving in Viet Nam and by parents of soldiers.

The President, Mr. Moyers said, read one letter from a mother who wrote that she had two sons, and that one had been killed in Viet Nam and the other is now stationed in Colorado.

The general, according to

Mr. Moyers, looked at the letter, handed it back to the President and said: "Don't send the other boy, too."

Gen. Eisenhower and Mr. Goldwater were both in Washington yesterday to attend a meeting of the GOP National Coordinating Committee - the top party policy body of which both are members. It was understood that the President's phone call to Mr. Goldwater was made to the latter's apartment here.

Mr. Moyers said the two men discussed a number of matters including the threatened steel strike and the war in Viet Nam. The President, Mr. Moyers told reporters, said he would be "happy" to send CIA director Adm. William Raborn to the Goldwater home in Phoenix, Ariz., to brief the Republican leader on Viet Nam.

He did not say whether the offer was accepted.

The President, according to Mr. Moyers, also told the former Senator to "come and see me any time you're in town and have a cup of coffee."

Mr. Moyers said Mr. Goldwater replied that he did not drink coffee but would be happy to have a Coke or something.

Mr. Moyers was asked if the White House offer to brief the Arizona conservative meant that the Administration regards Mr. Goldwater as the "titular leader" of the GOP. He replied that only the Republicans can say if Mr. Goldwater is their leader.

Earlier, a similar question was put to GOP national chairman Ray Bliss at the close of the Co-ordinating Committee meeting. He said it was "customary over the years that the Presidential nominee be so regarded."

The Co-ordinating Committee is the GOP's top policy body and is composed of former Presidential candidates, the party's Congressional leadership and representatives of the National Committee and the GOP Governors' Association.

Mr. Goldwater's recently formed Free Society Association and other "splinter groups" constituted one of the major topics of discussion at yesterday's committee session. Gov. Robert Smylie of Idaho, who is chairman of the Governors Association, said the Co-ordinating Committee is con-

templating inviting leaders of such groups to appear before it "to see what they've got in mind."

The last publicly-recorded communication between Mr. Goldwater and the man he liked to refer to in the Presidential campaign as "Light-Bulb Johnson" (because of the President's dimming the lights of the White House in the interest of economy), was on Nov. 4, 1964.

That day, the day after he had lost all but six of the 50 states to Mr. Johnson, Mr. Goldwater sent a rather cold congratulatory telegram to the President.

Yesterday's Presidential invitation to Mr. Goldwater to stop by at the White House "any time you're in town" stirred recollections of Mr. Goldwater's last visit there.

That was on July 24, 1964, less than two weeks after Mr. Goldwater's nomination in San Francisco. It was a meeting that came after Mr. Goldwater said that he would be

willing to meet with the President to make sure that civil rights was not made an inflammatory issue in the campaign.

The White House response was prompt. The two leaders met a few days later in the President's office for less than ten minutes. The atmosphere was reported to be quite strained.

They quickly agreed on a combined statement on civil rights as a non-issue. Then, according to an authoritative White House report that emerged some time later, Mr. Goldwater, who is a pilot, mentioned a new experimental aircraft that the President had announced—the SR-71—and jokingly asked if he might be allowed to fly it.

Mr. Johnson is said to have replied that the aircraft was still in the experimental stage and would not be test flown until after the first of the year. Why not wait until then, Mr. Johnson is said to have added, "and see who's Commander in Chief?"